## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

June 21, 2010

The Honorable James L. Oberstar Chairman Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure U.S. House of Representatives 2165 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable John L. Mica Ranking Member Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure U.S. House of Representatives 2163 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jerry F. Costello Chairman Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation U.S. House of Representatives 2251 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Thomas E. Petri Ranking Member Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation U.S. House of Representatives 2251 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Oberstar, Ranking Member Mica, Chairman Costello and Ranking Member Petri:

As you work to reach agreement with the Senate on a final F.A.A. Reauthorization bill, we respectfully urge you to press for inclusion of H.R. 1941, a bill to allow additional flights beyond the "perimeter rule" restriction at Washington Reagan National Airport (DCA), in the final package.

As you know, the perimeter rule restricts non-stop access to DCA from airports located more than 1,250 miles from DCA.

In recent years, Congress has allowed very limited and controlled exemptions to the perimeter rule. Yet, currently, only a dozen nonstop flights are permitted daily between Washington National and the entire western United States—four flights to Denver, three to Phoenix, two to Seattle, one to Las Vegas, one to Los Angeles, and one to Salt Lake City.

H.R. 1941 would increase the number of long-distance flights into and out of DCA without adding additional takeoffs or landings at DCA, while also protecting service to smaller cities located within the 1,250 mile perimeter.

Under H.R.1941, carriers that currently have slots at DCA would be permitted to convert flights now serving large hub airports inside the perimeter into flights serving airports outside the perimeter. The approach would ensure that small and medium-sized communities inside the perimeter would not be adversely impacted.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,	2 01 1
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